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Dairy Judging Manual

N. J. Moeller

R. J. Warner

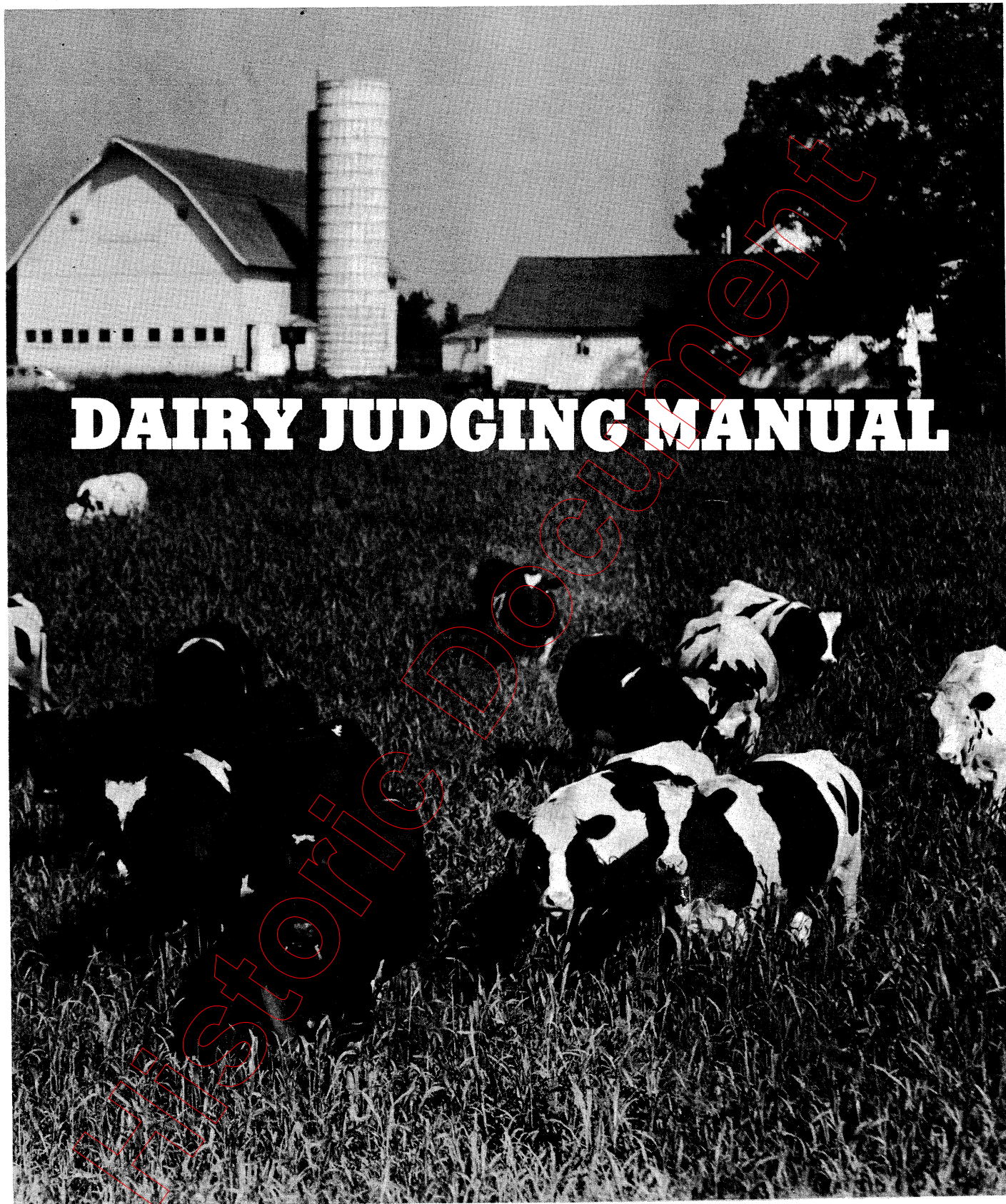
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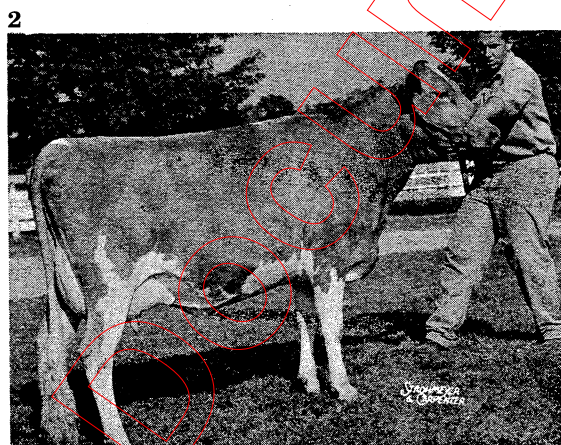
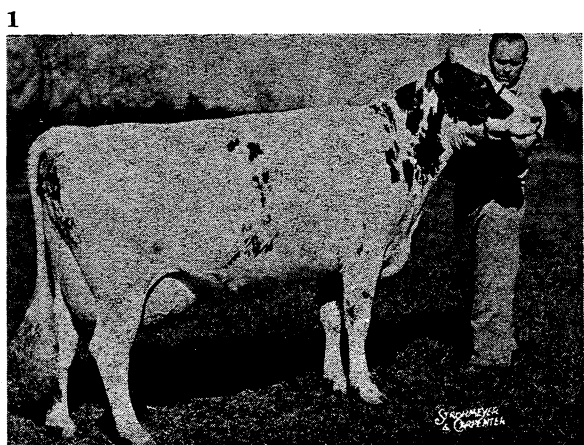
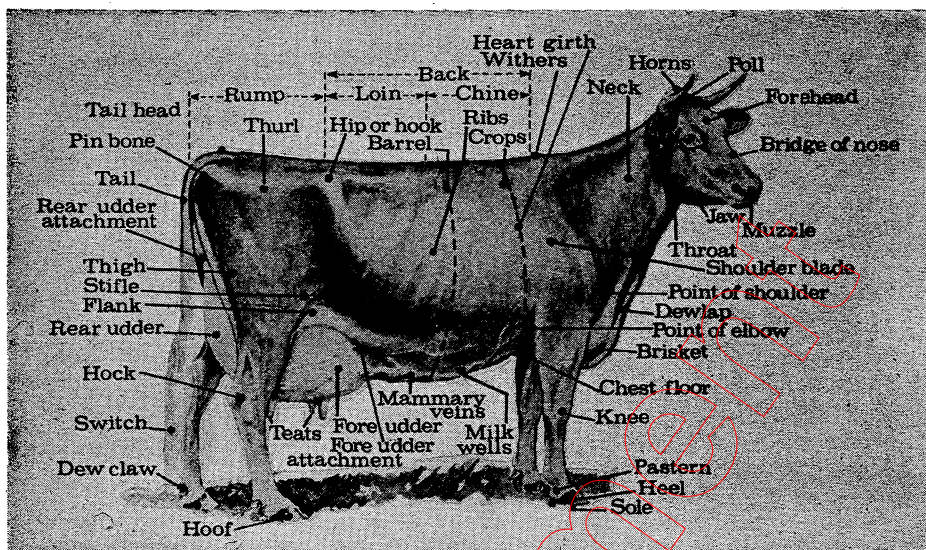
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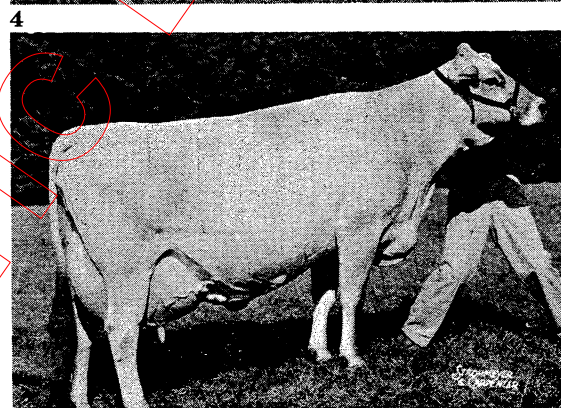
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE, PURDUE UNIVERSITY, WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

REPRESENTATIVE DAIRY COWS



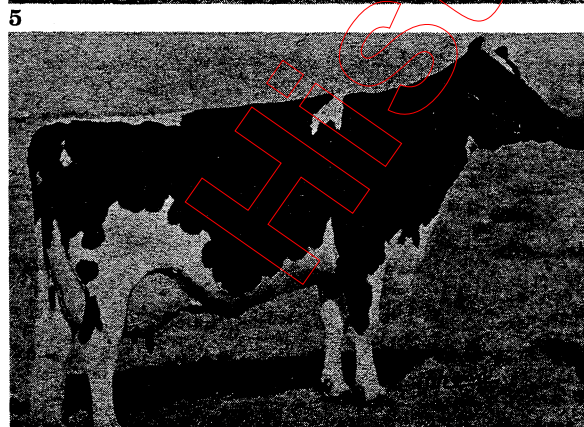
1 Ayrshire: Hammond's Top Primrose 595613
Classification: 90.4—Excellent
Production: 7 records average—20,444 lb. milk, 824 lb. fat

2 Guernsey: Metzger Farms Peer Valerie 1793316
Classification: Excellent 5 times
Production: 4 records average—15,068 lb. milk, 757 lb. fat



3 Jersey: Beacon Bas Patience
Classification: 94%—Excellent
Production: 3 records average—20,233 lb. milk, 1084 lb. fat

4 Brown Swiss: Mabel's Tamarind Violet 325683
Classification: Excellent 4 times
Production: 5 records average—23,019 lb. milk, 1092 lb. fat



5 Holstein-Friesian: Harbor crest Rose Milly 4141507
Classification: 97—Excellent
Production: 5 records average—19,192 lb. milk, 833 lb. fat

6 Milking Shorthorn: Fairy Lou
Classification: Excellent
Production: 7 records average—11,565 lb. milk, 416 lb. fat

Dairy Judging Manual

by N. J. Moeller, Extension Dairyman and R. J. Warner, Department of 4-H and Youth

Breed Characteristics

Judging dairy cattle teaches you to observe closely, to make comparisons, and to make final decisions. When you judge in competition, you probably will be required to give reasons for your decisions, and you will have an opportunity to practice expressing yourself clearly and accurately in writing or orally. You can also learn to judge or analyze an animal in relation to the ideal of its breed.

Steps in Learning to Judge

1. You must learn the names, locations, and relationships of all the parts of the cow. Do this by studying figure 1.
2. You must know how the ideal cow looks. Learn this by studying models and pictures. Pictures of state and national champions may be seen in breed and farm magazines. Judging a class of four cows is not only a comparison among them, but a comparison of each to the ideal.
3. Study the *Dairy Cow Unified Score Card* and learn the value of points for general appearance, dairy character, body capacity, and mammary system. Learn the relative importance of the various parts of the cow's anatomy.
4. Take every opportunity to judge and analyze cows in comparison to the ideal. Decide upon their strong and weak points of conformation. Pictures will serve this purpose almost as well as live cows.
5. Train yourself to remember the animals you have judged, and you will be able to use this previous experience to arrive at later correct decisions.

BREED CHARACTERISTICS

Ayrshire

Strong and robust, showing constitution and vigor, symmetry, style and balance throughout, and characterized by strongly attached, evenly balanced, well-shaped udder.

Color—Light to deep cherry red, mahogany, brown or a combination of any of these colors with white, or white alone, distinctive red and white markings preferred, black or brindle objectionable.

Size—A mature cow in milk should weigh at least 1200 pounds.

Horns—Inclining upward, refined, medium length and tapered toward tips. No discrimination for absence of horns.

Guernsey

Size and strength, with quality and character desired.

Color—A shade of fawn with white markings clearly defined. Skin should show golden yellow pigmentation. When other points are equal, a clear (buff) muzzle will be favored over a smoky or black muzzle. A bright golden yellow pigmentation on the nose, around the eyes, in the ears, in the escutcheon, around the udder and at the point of tail is favored.

Size—A mature cow in milk should weigh at least 1100 pounds. "In milk" means normal condition after having been in milk from 3 to 6 months.

Horns—No discrimination for absence of horns.

Jersey

Sharpness with strength indicating productive efficiency.

Color—A shade of fawn, with or without white markings.

Size—A mature cow in milk should weigh about 1000 pounds.

Horns—Incurving, refined, medium length and tapering toward tips. No discrimination for absence of horns.

Brown Swiss

Strong and vigorous, but not coarse. Size and ruggedness with quality desired. Extreme refinement undesirable.

Color—Solid brown varying from very light to dark. White or off-color spots objectionable. Females with any

white or off-color markings above the underside of the belly or with white core in switch do not meet color standards of the Brown Swiss breed, and shall be so designated when registered. Pink noses and light streaks up the side of the face objectionable.

Size—The minimum weight for mature cows should be about 1400 pounds.

Horns—Incurving and inclining slightly up, of medium length, lacking coarseness, tapering toward tips. Polled animals not barred from registry. No discrimination for absence of horns.

Holstein

Rugged, feminine qualities in an alert cow possessing Holstein size and vigor.

Color—Black and white markings clearly defined. Color markings that bar registry are solid black, solid white, black in switch, black belly, black encircling leg touching hoof head, black from hoof to knee or hock, black and white intermixed to give color other than black and white.

Size—A mature cow in milk should weigh at least 1500 pounds.

Horns—No discrimination for absence of horns.

Milking Shorthorn

Strong and vigorous. Good size and ruggedness with quality desired. Legginess and coarseness to be avoided. A dual purpose type is advocated, a balanced animal in milking and fleshing qualities, avoiding extremes in dairy and beef conformation.

Color—Red, red and white, and white or roan. Roan is an intermixture of red and white hair. Nose clean, flesh colored, with entire absence of dark pigmentation.

Size—A mature cow should weigh from 1400 to 1600 pounds.

Horns—There are both polled and horned branches of the breed; therefore, horns are not a qualifying factor, other things being equal.

DAIRY COW UNIFIED SCORE CARD

Copyrighted by The Purebred Dairy Cattle Association
Approved — The American Dairy Science Association

Breed characteristics should be considered in the application of this score card		Perfect Score
Order of observation		
1. GENERAL APPEARANCE		30
(Attractive individuality with femininity, vigor, stretch, scale, harmonious blending of all parts, and impressive style and carriage. All parts of a cow should be considered in evaluating a cow's general appearance)		10
BREED CHARACTERISTICS — (see page 5)		
HEAD — clean cut, proportionate to body; broad muzzle with large open nostrils; strong jaws; large bright eyes; forehead, broad and moderately dished; bridge of nose straight; ears medium size and alertly carried.		10
SHOULDER BLADES — set smoothly and tightly against the body		
BACK — straight and strong; loin, broad and nearly level		
RUMP — long, wide and nearly level from HOOK BONES to PIN BONES; clean cut and free from patchiness; THURLS, high and wide apart; TAIL HEAD, set level with backline and free from coarseness; TAIL, slender		
LEGS and FEET — bone flat and strong, pasterns short and strong, hocks cleanly moulded		10
FEET, short, compact and well rounded with deep heel and level sole. FORE LEGS, medium in length, straight, wide apart, and squarely placed. HIND LEGS, nearly perpendicular from hock to pastern, from the side view, and straight from the rear view		
2. DAIRY CHARACTER		20
(Evidence of milking ability, angularity, and general openness, without weakness; freedom from coarseness, giving due regard to period of lactation)		
NECK — long, lean, and blending smoothly into shoulders; clean cut throat, dewlap, and brisket WITHERS, sharp. RIBS, wide apart, rib bones wide, flat, and long. FLANKS, deep and refined. THIGHS, incurving to flat, and wide apart from the rear view, providing ample room for the udder and its rear attachment. SKIN, loose, and pliable		20
3. BODY CAPACITY		20
(Relatively large in proportion to size of animal, providing ample capacity, strength, and vigor)		
BARREL — strongly supported, long and deep; ribs highly and widely sprung; depth and width of barrel tending to increase toward rear		10
HEART GIRTH — large and deep, with well sprung fore ribs blending into the shoulders; full crops; full at elbows; wide chest floor		10
4. MAMMARY SYSTEM		30
(A strongly attached, well balanced, capacious udder of fine texture indicating heavy production and a long period of usefulness)		
· UDDER — symmetrical, moderately long, wide and deep, strongly attached, showing moderate cleavage between halves, no quartering on sides; soft, pliable, and well collapsed after milking; quarters evenly balanced		10
FORE UDDER — moderated length, uniform width from front to rear and strongly attached		6
REAR UDDER — high, wide, slightly rounded, fairly uniform width from top to floor, and strongly attached		7
TEATS — uniform size, of medium length and diameter, cylindrical, squarely placed under each quarter, plumb, and well spaced from side and rear views		5
MAMMARY VEINS — large, long, tortuous, branching		2
"Because of the natural undeveloped mammary system in heifer calves and yearlings, less emphasis is placed on mammary system and more on general appearance, dairy character, and body capacity. A slight to serious discrimination applies to overdeveloped, fatty udders in heifer calves and yearlings."		
Subscores are not used in breed type classification.		TOTAL
		100

Entering a dairy judging contest

Developing a system of observation

ENTERING A DAIRY JUDGING CONTEST

A class consists of four animals, numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4. In scoring most contests, 50 points are given for correctly placing the animals in the class, and 50 points for the oral or written reasons you give for placing them as you do. You will be given special cards on which to record your placement of the animals and your reasons, and reason note cards for taking notes.

Ten minutes are allowed for placing a class. If oral or written reasons are required, you will be given an additional eight minutes to take notes, or to complete and submit your reasons.

Before the first class is brought into the ring, you will be given the necessary cards and supplies. Put your contestant number on each of the cards

before the contest begins. Then, if a card is lost, it can be traced back to you and you will not receive a zero for the class. For each class, write the name of the class judged and check that you have not used the same number twice when writing down your placing.

DEVELOPING A SYSTEM OF OBSERVATION

Listen carefully to the instructions and details about the class. The age, stage of lactation, defects, and other facts can be very important in making the correct placing.

Stand back at least 25 feet from the class to get a good over-all view of each cow as well as the class. A close inspection may be allowed, but no handling of the cows is permitted. Since no

handling is permitted, it is assumed that there are no defects in any animal not visible to the naked eye. Study the animals quickly in the order that they are numbered. You may notice that one of the cows is outstanding, or that one has many undesirable points.

Start with number 1 again and study her carefully, deciding upon her strong and weak points. Next, look at number 2 and compare her to the ideal. Then try to decide which more nearly approaches that of the ideal. Study number 3 and compare to number 1 and number 2. Do the same with number 4.

You may have decided there was an obvious top or bottom animal, a close top pair or some other combination. Make your easy placing first, to simplify the task of placing the remaining animals.

Evaluation of Defects

In a show ring, disqualification means that the animal is not eligible to win a prize. Any disqualified animal is not eligible to be shown in the group classes. In slight to serious discrimination, the degree of seriousness shall be determined by the judge.

EYES

1. Total blindness: *Disqualification*
2. Blindness in one eye: *Slight discrimination*
3. Cross-eyes: *Slight discrimination*

WRY FACE

Slight to serious discrimination

CROPPED EARS

Slight discrimination

PARROT JAW

Slight to serious discrimination

SHOULDERS

Winged: *Slight to serious discrimination*

TAIL SETTING

Wry tail or other abnormal tail settings: *Slight to serious discrimination*

LEGS AND FEET

1. Lameness — apparently permanent and interfering with normal function: *Disqualification*
— apparently temporary and not affecting normal function: *Slight discrimination*
2. Bucked knees: *Slight to serious discrimination*
3. Evidence of arthritis, crampy hind legs: *Serious discrimination*
4. Boggy hocks: *Slight to serious discrimination*

ABSENCE OF HORNS

No discrimination

LACK OF SIZE

Slight to serious discrimination

UDDER

1. Blind quarter: *Disqualification*

2. Abnormal milk (bloody, clotted, watery): *Possible disqualification*
3. Udder definitely broken away in attachment: *Serious discrimination*
4. A weak udder attachment: *Slight to serious discrimination*
5. One or more light quarters, hard spots in udder, obstruction in teat (spider): *Slight to serious discrimination*
6. Side leak: *Slight discrimination*

DRY COWS

Among cows of apparently equal merits: *Give strong preference to cows in milk*

FREEMARTIN HEIFERS

Disqualification unless proved pregnant

OVERCONDITIONED

Slight to serious discrimination

TEMPORARY OR MINOR INJURIES

Blemishes or injuries of a temporary character not affecting animal's usefulness: *Slight discrimination*

EVIDENCE OF SHARP PRACTICE

1. Animals showing signs of having been operated upon or tampered with for the purpose of concealing faults in conformation, or with intent to deceive relative to the animal's soundness: *Disqualification*
2. Uncalved heifers showing evidence of having been milked: *Serious discrimination*

Main areas to study
Taking notes for oral reasons

MAIN AREAS TO STUDY

Mammary system — Look at the udder first; the mammary system is the most important part of a cow. In a close placing, always rank the cow with the best udder ahead of the other.

The udder should be strongly and smoothly attached in the front, with a high, wide attachment in the rear. A moderate amount of halving shows strength of center attachments, (medial suspensory ligament) and is desirable. A noticeable line showing where one quarter joins the other, also denotes strength of attachment. The udder floor should not extend below the hock on a mature animal and should be well above the hock on a younger cow. The teats should be of convenient size for milking and squarely placed on the udder floor. Udder quality is determined by its softness, pliability, and fineness of texture.

Dairy character — Dairy character indicates that the cow economically uses her feed in the production of milk and butterfat. It is usually expressed by sharpness and cleanness over the shoulder, prominence of hips and pin bones, flatness of thighs, and a general openness throughout. The length and cleanness of neck, and flatness of bone are also considered.

Viewed from the rear, the shoulders should be neatly joined with the vertebrae of the backbone which should be clearly defined and above the shoulder blades. The crops should be full and smoothly blended with the shoulders. Viewed from the side and front, the shoulder should be deep and neatly laid in at the point of the shoulder. Some extra body condition on dry cows does not, necessarily, denote lack of dairy character. Do not confuse dairy character with weakness and frailty.

Body capacity — Body capacity is expressed in terms of length, depth, and width. Body depth is indicated by length of both fore and rear ribs. Flat and open ribbing with spring of fore and width of rear ribs indicates body capacity. A long, stretchy, open bodied cow is desirable.

General appearance — The back and rump of a cow should be straight with the vertebrae of the back clearly defined. The rump which consists of the hips, thurls, and pin bones should be wide and nearly level. The tail head should be slightly above the pin bones and blend smoothly with the rump.

The rear legs should be straight as viewed from the rear and straight from the hooks down as viewed from the side. However, rear legs which are overly straight in the hock are undesirable, and referred to as post-legged. They should be rather flat with large, clean bone. The front legs should be set wide apart and straight. The hocks and knees should be free from puffiness.

The thighs should be flat and thin allowing ample space for a high wide udder.

The pasterns should be strong and of medium length. Long pasterns tend to be weak and do not support the cow correctly. The feet should be short and well rounded, with a deep heel.

Breed character about the head — Breeds differ mostly in head shape, color, and size. Each dairy cow should

conform closely to the standards set by the National Breed Association. The characteristics of the breeds recognized by the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association are listed on page 5.

Study the pictures of outstanding cows and become familiar with the various breed standards.

TAKING NOTES FOR ORAL REASONS

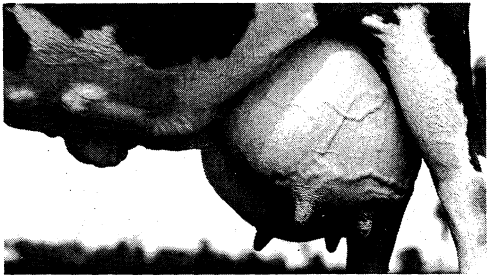
When judging a class on which you will be giving oral reasons, place the class as soon as possible and write the placing at the top of your note card. Make a descriptive note such as white cow or horned cow on each animal to help you visualize the class later when you are preparing your reasons.

List the advantages for the cow which you placed first on the left side of your notes. If your second place cow has any advantages over the first place cow, list them on the right side of the card. You may grant that she is stronger on these points. Write down your comparative notes in the order of their importance.

EXAMPLE
Reason Note Card

Table with 3 columns: Rank, Description, and Grant/Over/Faults. Rows include Class (Holstein Aged Cows), Placing (4-1-3-2), Top Pair (Grant 1 over 4), Middle Pair (Grant 3 over 1), and Bottom Pair (Grant 2 over 3).

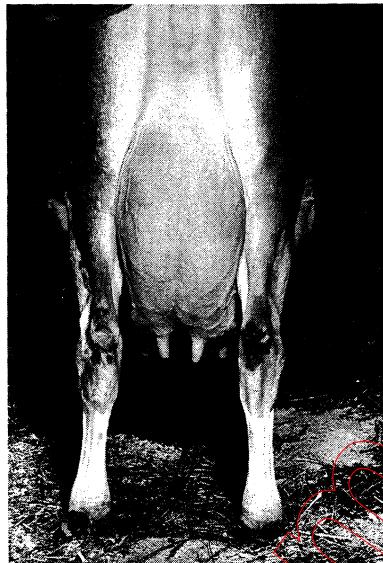
Continue taking complete notes on each pair; 1 over 3, and 3 over 2. These notes will be helpful two or three hours later when you are preparing to give your reasons.



Top—A poorly shaped udder that tilts forward and is weak in attachments.



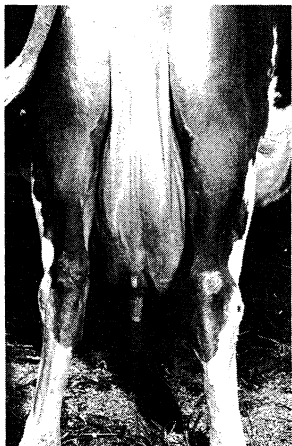
Bottom—A well-balanced udder of desirable size and shape showing strong fore and rear attachments.



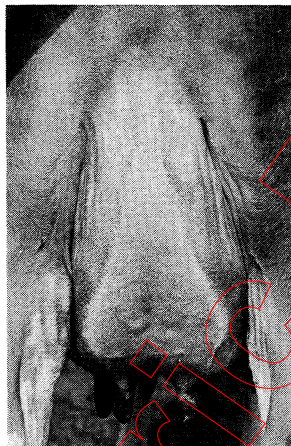
Left—This view shows rear legs which are straight with ample udder space. Note the flatness and cleanness of thighs.



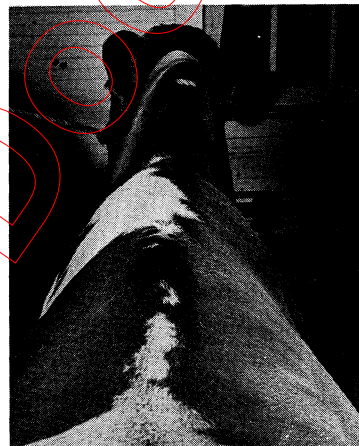
Right—Note the weak pasterns and poor rear legs which are cow hocked.



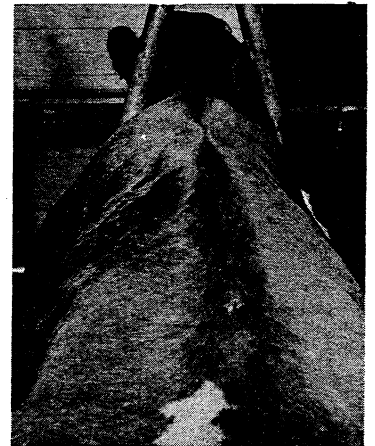
Left—Undesirable udder showing weak rear attachment and lacking balance.



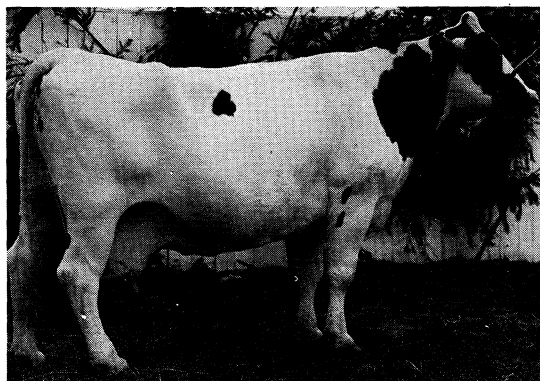
Right—A desirable rear udder showing high, wide, strong attachments with evenly placed teats.



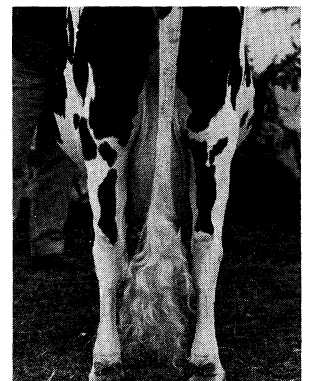
Note the more desirable sharpness of the withers and fullness of crops of the cow on left than the cow on the right.



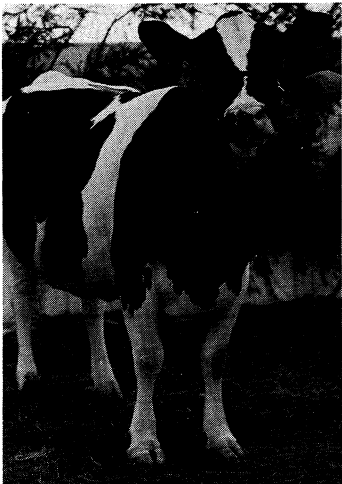
This cow shows excellent dairy character. Note the sharpness, openness and lack of excess flesh.



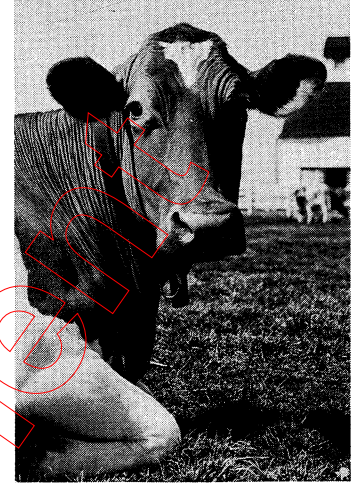
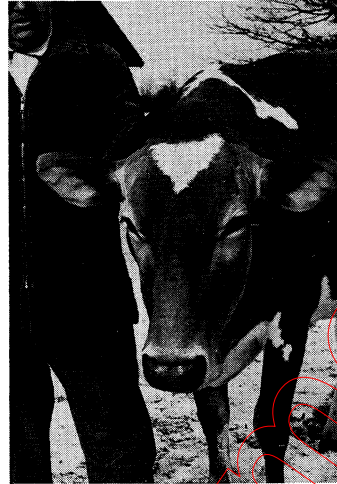
This cow lacks dairyness and openness being short and heavy in the neck and coarse and patchy over the rump and tailhead. Note the sickle hocked rear legs.



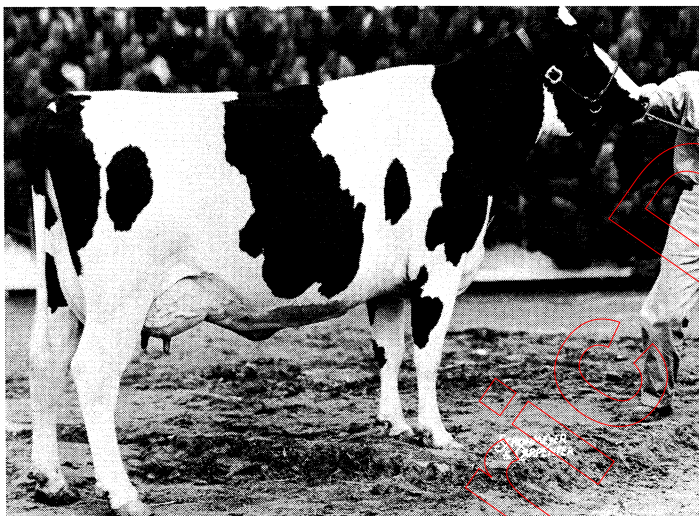
Cow showing desirable rear legs but lacking strength and width of rear udder attachments.



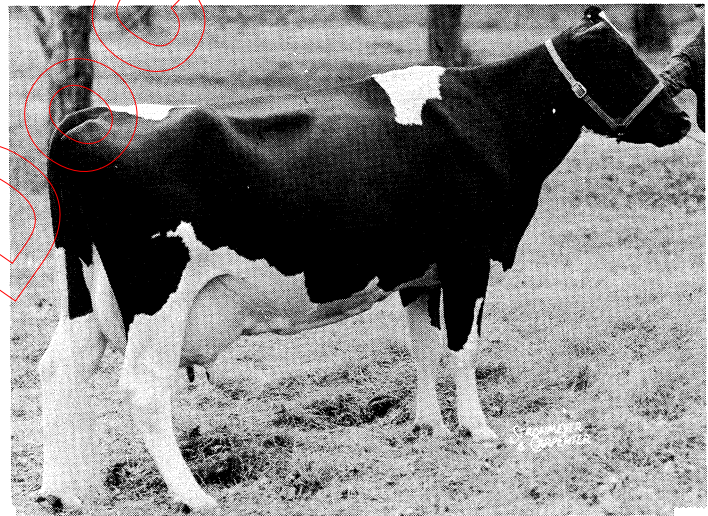
Cow on the right shows more nearly straight front legs with more ample chest width as compared to the cow on the left.



Head on right shows excellent breed character, strength, and alertness compared to a plain, weak head on the left.



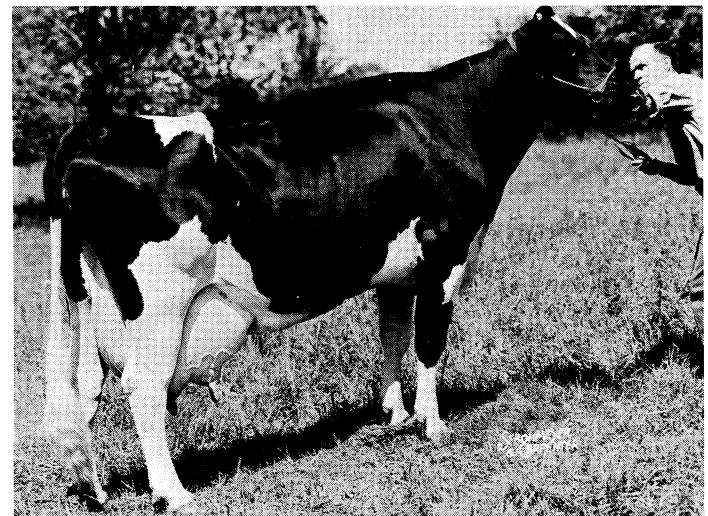
1



2



3



4

Giving oral reasons

Order or organization of reasons

GIVING ORAL REASONS

Judging contests are frequently won or lost on the scores given the contestant for his oral and written reasons. Reason scores are based upon:

- Accuracy and completeness
- Organization (order, identification, pairs, timing)
- Terminology (proper, comparative terms)
- Presentation (poise, forceful, confident, smooth delivery)

You are allowed two minutes to give your reasons. The judge will be listening for certain important facts on each pair of cows. Have your reasons organized and present them in a clear and concise manner. Presenting a set of reasons in one minute is much better than two minutes of talking with only a few facts.

The main objective of your reasons is to inform the judge that you saw and compared each animal in the class. To do this well, you must know dairy cattle and have a complete vocabulary of dairy cow terms.

The most common error made by boys and girls who are learning to give reasons is to *describe the animals* instead of *comparing them*. An example of this is "I placed the number 1 cow first because she was large, straight over the topline, and had a level rump. Her udder was attached strongly, both fore and rear." This does not tell the judge why you placed number 1 over number 2. You should say, "I placed number 1 over number 2 because she was a larger cow which was straighter over the topline, and had a more nearly level rump. Her udder attachment was longer and stronger in the fore, and higher, wider, and stronger in the rear." By using *er* words such as

stronger instead of strong, *straighter* instead of straight, you will be making direct comparisons that will tell the judge why you placed the class as you did. Do *not* use the words *good* or *better* because they do not indicate difference.

When giving reasons, you must be able to visualize completely each animal in the class. Do not memorize your reasons, but "see" the animals as you talk about them. If you memorize your reasons and forget one sentence, you may be unable to get started again. You *are not permitted* to use notes when giving reasons.

When practicing your reasons before giving them to the judge, try to find a quiet place in the room and give your reasons aloud. You will gain confidence by hearing your voice, and you may notice that some phrases are not clear.

Give your reasons in an authoritative and enthusiastic manner. Show some conviction that you have placed the animals correctly. Do not discuss your placing with anyone before giving your reasons. To learn that several others have placed the class differently will only make you nervous and uncertain of yourself.

The first impression you make on the judge is very important. Adjust your clothing and remove your hat before approaching him, then make your appearance in a dignified and composed manner.

Give the judge your complete attention and expect the same from him. Look him straight in the eyes. If this bothers you, look at his forehead or just over his head, and he may not be the wiser. Do not begin giving your reasons until the judge has asked you to start.

Stand straight, on both feet, and do not move or look about. Place your hands at your sides or behind you; do

not wring your hands or twirl a pencil.

Put some depth in your voice. Breathe deeply and let the words roll out strong and clear. Emphasize the most important points by making your voice deeper and louder. Do not try to blast the judge out of his chair, but adjust your volume to the conditions.

ORDER OR ORGANIZATION OF REASONS

The most accepted order of giving reasons is as follows:

Top pair: Compare—grant—rarely fault the second place cow.

Middle pair: Compare—grant—sometimes fault third place cow.

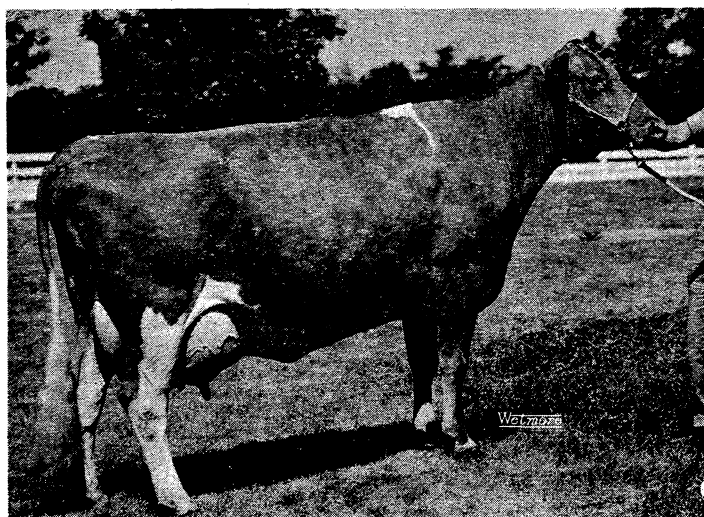
Bottom pair: Compare—rarely grant—fault last place cow.

Start your reasons with: "I placed this class of Holstein aged cows 4-1-3-2." Give your placing with firmness so the judge can write it down or get the placing in mind. Then follow with: "I placed 4 first and over 1 because she was . . ." Give the most important reasons first. Remember to use comparative terms. "I grant (or admit) that 1 has straighter rear legs than 4."

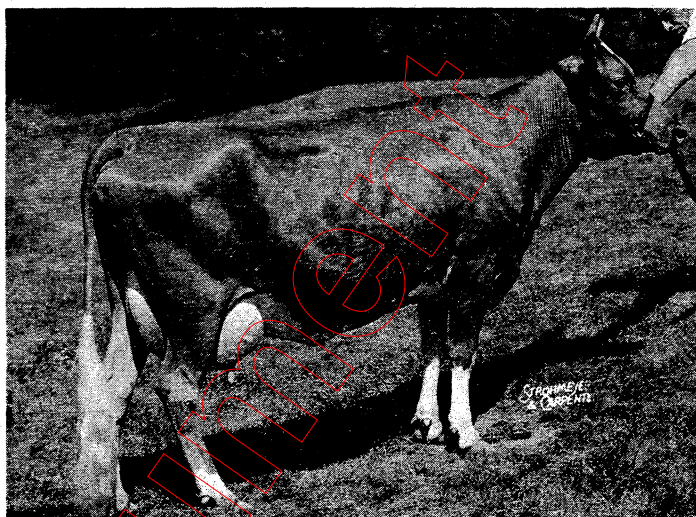
Continue in the same manner with reasons for placing 1 over 3 and 3 over 2. Discuss the last placed cow as follows: "I fault 2 and place her last because she . . ."

You may end your reasons with: "For these reasons, I have placed this class 4-1-3-2."

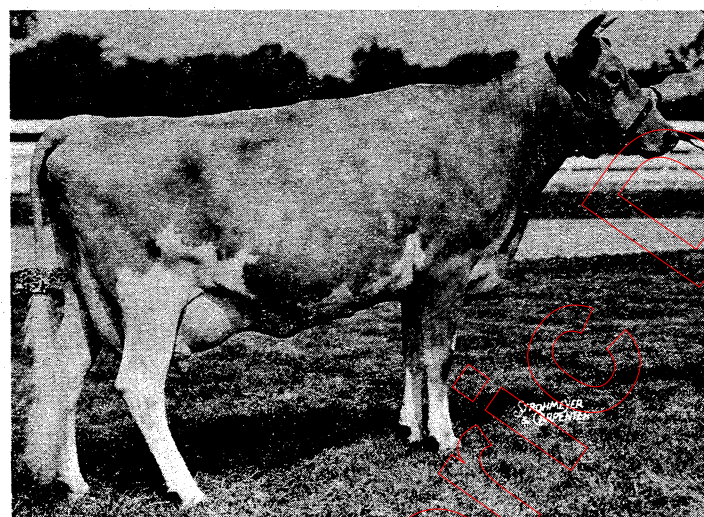
The judge may ask several questions to clear up a point, or to determine whether or not you saw a certain point. If you know the answer, make an immediate, concise reply. Do not ramble on to other points because you may confuse your answer. If you do not know the answer, reply, "I do not know or I do not remember." Do not guess.



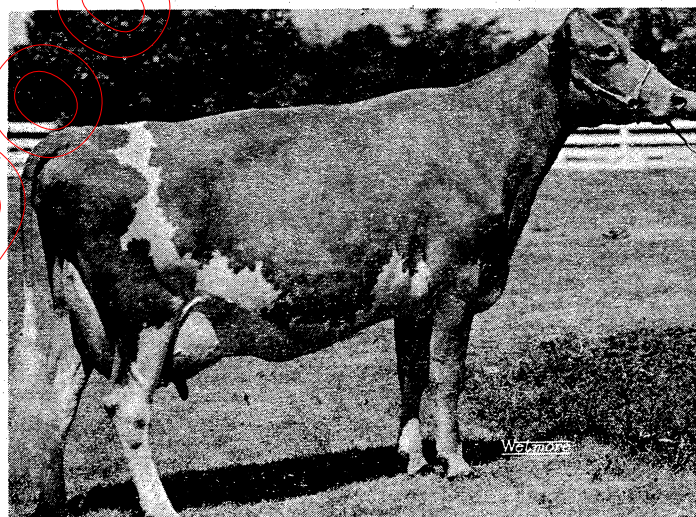
1



2



3



4

SAMPLE SET OF WRITTEN REASONS

The following set of reasons were written for the class shown on page 10.

I placed this class of Holstein aged cows 1-2-3-4.

I placed 1 over 2 because she has a more balanced udder especially in the rear quarters. It is attached higher and wider in the rear and is stronger and smoother in the fore attachment. Her udder shows more quality and the teats hang more nearly plumb than 2. One has more body capacity, is deeper in the rear flank, and has greater spring of fore rib. One is stronger over the loin, longer from hips to pin, smoother through the shoulders, and shows much

more Holstein breed character about the head. She stands on a much straighter set of rear legs and is stronger on her pasterns. I grant that 2 is cleaner in the throat.

I placed 2 over 3 because she has a more desirable udder. It is attached more strongly in the front and has more balance of fore quarters as compared to 3. The udder of number 2 is attached higher in the rear and has more fullness and balance of rear quarters. The teats hang more nearly plumb and the udder is more evenly balanced from front to rear. Two is a deeper-bodied cow and has more depth and openness of rib. She has a more nearly level rump and is neater and smoother over the tail head. The 2 cow also

stands on a slightly straighter set of rear legs and is much cleaner in the bone. I grant that 3 is a more stylish cow and has more breed character about the head. Three is also longer bodied.

I placed 3 over 4 because she carries her udder closer to the body. The udder of 3 is much more strongly attached in front and is more evenly balanced from front to rear. She is more nearly level from hips to pins and is higher at the thurls. I grant that 4 stands straighter on her rear legs and is cleaner in the bone.

I fault 4 and place her last because her udder is much too deep and she lacks a great deal in strength of fore attachment.

Sample set of written reasons

Comparative phrases

Comparative and descriptive terms

You may use the class of animals pictured on page 12 to practice taking notes and giving oral or written reasons.

Practice is essential for improvement.

COMPARATIVE PHRASES

Many boys and girls can place a class of dairy cattle easily and also recognize the differences between the cows; however, they frequently have difficulty in telling the judge their reasons for placing one cow over another.

If you can recognize the differences between cows and familiarize yourself with the phrases listed below, you will be on the road to giving accurate, comparative reasons. When you are giving your reasons, you will not have to think how to make a certain comparison. This will be easy to do after you have the basic phrases well in mind. With experience you will develop phrases of your own. These are only a few to help you get started.

Breed character

She shows more Holstein type and breed character, especially about the head and neck.

She has a stronger jaw and is wider at the muzzle.

Dairy character

She is far more desirable in dairy character, being sharper and cleaner over the withers, hips, and pins.

She shows more openness of rib, and is flatter and cleaner in the thighs.

She is longer and cleaner in the neck, and it blends more smoothly with the shoulders.

Body capacity

She has greater body capacity, being longer bodied and deeper in both fore and rear ribs.

She has greater strength of heart, being wider on the chest floor, has

greater depth and spring of fore rib, and is deeper in the rear flank.

General appearance

She is a larger cow with more size and scale.

She has a straighter and stronger topline, and is more nearly level from hips to pins.

She is smoother and wider over the rump, higher at the thurls and is neater over the tail head.

She is tighter, stronger, and smoother at the point of shoulder, and blends in more fully and smoothly through the crops.

She shows more style and balance, especially on the move.

She stands on a straighter set of rear legs as viewed from both the side and rear.

She is flatter and cleaner in her bone and has more substance of bone.

Udder

She has a larger udder that is attached more strongly, and more smoothly in the fore, and attached higher and wider in the rear.

Her teats are more squarely placed, hang more nearly plumb, and are of more desirable size.

Her udder appears to show more quality as indicated by more veining.

COMPARATIVE AND DESCRIPTIVE TERMS

Breed type and general appearance

Positive terms

Has a more feminine head

Has more style and balance

Has more dairy quality

Is smoother throughout

Neck blends more smoothly with the shoulders

Has more strength and substance

Shows more style when on the move

Stands more correctly on her rear legs

Is straighter on her rear legs as viewed from the rear

Stands more squarely on her legs

Has shorter and stronger pasterns

Is deeper in the heel

Is flatter and cleaner in the bone
Has a wider and more nearly level rump

Is wider and more nearly level from hips to pins

Is higher at the thurls

Is wider at the pins

Is a more upstanding cow

Is stronger over the back and loin

Is longer bodied and more upstanding

Is longer and more open in type

Is stronger through the front

Is tighter through the shoulders

Is smoother at the point of shoulders

Is fuller through the crops

Is stronger through the heart

Negative terms

Is rough over the rump

Is sloping over the rump

Is low at the pins

Is high at the tail head

Lacks over-all balance

Lacks in breed type about the head

Lacks quality and refinement

Is too refined and lacks strength, constitution, and vigor

Lacks smoothness

Lacks strength of top

Is weak in the back

Is weak over the loin

Short bodied cow and too close to the ground

Lacks width of rump and is too narrow at pins

Lacks size and scale

Lacks condition and bloom

Is too coarse about the head

Is plain in the head

Has wry face (twist from the eyes to the muzzle)

Has wry tail to the right, (left)

Is crooked in the rear legs

Is sickle hocked

Is cow hocked

Stands too close at the hocks

Is too long in the pasterns

Is weak in the pasterns

Toes out in front

Is shallow in the heel

Does not walk freely

Dairy character

Positive terms

Has a more milky appearance
Is more dairy like
Is sharper over the withers
Is more angular throughout
Is more open ribbed
Is longer in the neck
Is thinner and cleaner in the thighs
Is cleaner at the throat
Is flatter and more open of rib
Is cleaner over the top with a more defined vertebrae
Has a neater and more refined tail head

Negative terms

Is heavy over the shoulders
Is short and thick in the neck
Is throaty
Is thick in the thighs
Is patchy at the hips and pins
Is close ribbed
Is too thick and meaty over the rump
Is rather heavy and coarse at the tail head

Body capacity

Positive terms

Has more body capacity by ____
Is deeper bodied
Is longer bodied
Shows more stretch
Has greater depth of body
Is deeper and more opened ribbed
Is deeper in the flank
Has more spring of fore rib
Is fuller in the crops
Is deeper through the heart
Is wider on the chest floor
Is fuller in the heart girth
Is wider down the top

Negative terms

Is pinched at the heart
Lacks depth of heart
Cuts in behind the shoulders
Is narrow chested

Lacks spring of fore rib
Is shallow bodied
Is too flat in the fore rib
Is cut-up in the flank

Mammary system

Positive terms

Has a more evenly balance udder
Has more balance of rear quarters
Udder is more strongly attached both fore and rear
Has more strongly attached fore udder
Has stronger rear udder attachment
Has higher and wider rear udder attachment
Has stronger and smoother fore udder attachment
Stronger center support in the udder
Udder shows more desirable halving and quartering
Udder shows more balance from front to rear
Is more firmly attached in the front
Carries her udder closer to the body
Has more width between rear teats
Teats are more evenly spaced
Teats hang more nearly plumb
Is more desirable in size and shape of teat
Has a more balanced udder
Has more uniformly placed teats
Has a more quality of udder
Carries out fuller in the rear quarters
Has more balance of the fore quarters

Negative terms

Weak in fore and rear attachments
Loose in front udder attachment
Is too short in the fore udder

Is too low and narrow in rear attachment
Has unbalanced udder
Is light in the right rear quarter
Is too deep in the udder
Udder shows too much halving and quartering
Teats strut
Has funnel-shaped teats
Rear teats are too close
Is bulgy in the fore quarters

HERE ARE SOME POINTS TO AVOID IN GIVING ORAL REASONS:

- Do not start giving your reasons until told to do so by the judge.
- Do not slouch.
- Do not chew gum or have anything in your mouth.
- Do not move around, jump, shift from one foot to another.
- Do not give "canned" (memorized) reasons.
- Do not describe the animals — use comparative terms.
- Do not use terms "better," "good," or "nice."
- Do not call the judge "Mr. Judge."
- Do not "guess" when answering questions.
- Do not *over* criticize the animals — their owner may be listening to the reasons.
- Do not use "bag" in describing the udder of a cow.
- Do not use tortuous milk veins and milk wells.

HEIFERS

The same score card is used for the evaluation of heifers except for the section on udders. In the placing of heifers, more upstanding animals with size, scale and strength of top and loin is desirable.

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